

PART 9—RULES RELATING TO REVIEW OF EXCHANGE DISCIPLINARY, ACCESS DENIAL OR OTHER ADVERSE ACTIONS

Subpart A—General Provisions

Sec.

- 9.1 Scope of rules.
- 9.2 Definitions.
- 9.3 Provisions referenced.
- 9.4 Filing and service; official docket.
- 9.5 Motions.
- 9.6 Sanctions for noncompliance.
- 9.7 Settlement.
- 9.8 Practice before the Commission.
- 9.9 Waiver of rules; delegation of authority.

Subpart B—Notice and Effective Date of Disciplinary Action or Access Denial Action

- 9.10 [Reserved]
- 9.11 Form, contents and delivery of notice of disciplinary or access denial action.
- 9.12 Effective date of disciplinary or access denial action.
- 9.13 Publication of notice.
- 9.14–9.19 [Reserved]

Subpart C—Initial Procedure With Respect to Appeals

- 9.20 Notice of appeal.
- 9.21 Record of exchange proceeding.
- 9.22 Appeal brief.
- 9.23 Answering brief.
- 9.24 Petition for stay pending review.
- 9.25 Limited participation of interested persons.
- 9.26 Participation of Commission staff.
- 9.27–9.29 [Reserved]

Subpart D—Commission Review of Disciplinary, Access Denial or Other Adverse Action

- 9.30 Scope of review.
- 9.31 Commission review of disciplinary or access denial action on its own motion.
- 9.32 Oral argument.
- 9.33 Final decision by the Commission.

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Subpart A—General Provisions

§ 9.1 Scope of rules.

(a) *Matters included.* This part governs the review by the Commission, pursuant to section 8c of the Act, as amended, of any suspension, expulsion,

disciplinary or access denial action, or other adverse action by an exchange.

(b) *Matters excluded.* This part does not apply to and the Commission will not accept notices of appeal, or petitions for stay pending review, of:

(1) Any arbitration proceeding, regardless of whether the proceeding was conducted pursuant to the provisions of section 5a(a)(11) of the Act or involved a controversy between members of an exchange;

(2) Except as provided in §§9.11(a), 9.11(b)(1)–(5), 9.11(c), 9.12(a) and 9.13 (concerning the notice, effective date and publication of a disciplinary or access denial action), any summary action authorized under the provisions of §8.27 of this chapter imposing a minor penalty for the violation of exchange rules relating to decorum or attire, or relating to the timely submission of accurate records required for clearing or verifying each day's transactions or other similar activities; and

(3) Any exchange action arising from a claim, grievance, or dispute involving cash market transactions which are not a part of, or directly connected with, any transaction for the purchase, sale, delivery or exercise of a commodity for future delivery or a commodity option.

The Commission will, upon its own motion or upon motion filed pursuant to §9.21(b), promptly notify the appellant and the exchange that it will not accept the notice of appeal or petition for stay of matters specified in this paragraph. The determination to decline to accept a notice of appeal will be without prejudice to the appellant's right to seek alternate forms of relief that may be available in any other forum.

(c) *Applicability of these part 9 rules.* Unless otherwise ordered, these rules will apply in their entirety to all appeals, and matters relating thereto filed on or after August 6, 1987. Any part 9 proceeding pending before the Commission on August 6, 1987, will continue to be governed by the Commission's former part 9 rules, 17 CFR part 9 (1987), except that the parties to any part 9 proceeding pending on August 6, 1987, may, within 30 days after August 6, 1987, by written stipulation executed by all parties, and filed with the Proceedings Clerk before the Commission's

Commodity Futures Trading Commission

§ 9.4

final decision is rendered, elect to have the matter governed by the provisions of this part 9, as amended.

[52 FR 25366, July 7, 1987, as amended at 59 FR 5701, Feb. 8, 1994]

§ 9.2 Definitions.

For purposes of this part:

(a) *Access denial action* means any proceeding other than a disciplinary action by an exchange that denies or limits the privileges of membership, but excludes any exchange action that solely limits the ability of a member of an exchange to participate in the internal corporate affairs of the exchange.

(b) *Disciplinary action* means any suspension, expulsion or other penalty (as defined in § 8.03(i) of this chapter) imposed on a member of an exchange by that exchange for violations of rules of the exchange, including summary actions.

(c) *Exchange* means any board of trade which has been designated as a contract market.

(d) *Exchange proceeding* means any formal or informal proceeding by an exchange which results in a disciplinary action, access denial action or other adverse action.

(e) *Mail* means properly addressed and postpaid first class mail, and includes overnight delivery service.

(f) *Member of an exchange* means any person who is admitted to membership or has been granted membership privileges on an exchange, any employee, officer, partner, director or affiliate of such member or person with membership privileges including any associated person, and any other person under the supervision or control of such member or person with membership privileges.

(g) *Other adverse action* and *adverse action* include any exchange action, other than an access denial action or disciplinary action, that adversely affects any person, whether or not a member of the exchange, but exclude any exchange action that solely involves the internal corporate affairs of the exchange.

(h) *Party* includes the person filing a notice of appeal or petition for stay who has been the subject of a disciplinary, access denial or other adverse action by an exchange; that exchange;

any person participating in a proceeding under this part pursuant to § 9.25; and the Division of Trading and Markets when participating in a proceeding under this part pursuant to § 9.26.

(i) *Record of the exchange proceeding* means all testimony, exhibits, papers and records produced at or filed in an exchange disciplinary or access denial proceeding or served on a party to that proceeding; all documents, minutes or other exchange records serving as a basis for or reflecting the findings, rationale and conclusions concerning the adverse action taken by an exchange; a transcript of any proceeding before any body of the exchange in connection with the exchange proceeding; and a copy of all exchange rules which form the basis for the exchange proceeding.

(j) *Rules of the exchange* means any constitutional provision, article of incorporation, bylaw, rule, regulation, resolution, or written and publicly available interpretation or stated policy of the exchange, or instrument corresponding thereto.

(k) *Summary action* means a disciplinary action resulting in the imposition of a penalty on a member of an exchange for violation of rules of the exchange authorized under the provisions of § 8.17(b) (penalty for impeding progress of hearing), § 8.25 (member responsibility action) or § 8.27 (penalty for violation of rules relating to decorum, attire, submission of records or similar activities) of this chapter.

[52 FR 25366, July 7, 1987; 52 FR 27286, July 20, 1987]

§ 9.3 Provisions referenced.

Except as otherwise provided in this part, the following provisions of the Commission's rules relating to reparations contained in part 12 of this chapter apply to this part: § 12.3 (Business address; hours); § 12.5 (Computation of time); § 12.6 (Extensions of time; adjournments; postponements); § 12.7 (Ex parte communications); and § 12.12 (Signature).

§ 9.4 Filing and service; official docket.

(a) *Filing with the Proceedings Clerk; proof of filing; proof of service.* Any document that is required by this part to be filed with the Proceedings Clerk must

be filed by delivering it in person or by mail to: Proceedings Clerk, Office of Proceedings, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, NW., Washington, DC 20581. To be timely filed under this part, a document must be delivered or mailed to the Proceedings Clerk within the time prescribed for filing. A party must use a means of filing which is at least as expeditious as that used in serving that document upon the other parties. Proof of filing must be made by attaching to the document for filing an affidavit of filing executed by any person 18 years of age or older or a proof of filing executed by an attorney-at-law qualified to practice before the Commission. The proof of filing must certify that the attached document was deposited in the mail, with first-class postage prepaid, addressed to the Proceedings Clerk, Office of Proceedings, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, NW., Washington, DC 20581, on the date specified in the affidavit. Proof of service of a document must be made by filing with the Proceedings Clerk, simultaneously with the filing of the required document, an affidavit of service executed by any person 18 years of age or older or a certification of service executed by an attorney-at-law qualified to practice before the Commission. The proof of service must identify the persons served, state that service has been made, set forth the date of service, and recite the manner of service.

(b) *Formalities of filing*—(1) *Number of copies*. Unless otherwise specifically provided, an original and two conformed copies of all documents filed with the Commission in accordance with the provisions of this part must be filed with the Proceedings Clerk.

(2) *Title page*. All documents filed with the Proceedings Clerk must include at the head thereof, or on a title page, the name of the Commission, the title of the proceeding, the docket number (if one has been assigned by the Proceedings Clerk), the subject of the particular document and the name of the person on whose behalf the document is being filed.

(3) *Paper, spacing, type*. All documents filed with the Proceedings Clerk must be typewritten, must be on one

grade of good white paper no less than 8 or more than 8½ inches wide and no less than 10½ or more than 11½ inches long, and must be bound on the top only. They must be double-spaced, except for long quotations (3 or more lines) and footnotes which should be single-spaced.

(4) *Signature*. The original copy of all papers must be signed in ink by the person filing the same or by his duly authorized agent or attorney.

(c) *Service*—(1) *General requirements*. All documents filed with the Proceedings Clerk must, at or before the time of filing, be served upon all parties. A party must use a means of service which is at least as expeditious as that used in filing that document with the Proceedings Clerk. One copy of all motions, petitions or applications made in the course of the proceeding, all notices of appeal, all briefs, and letters to the Commission or an employee thereof must be served by a party upon all other parties.

(2) *Manner of service*. Service may be either personal or by mail. Service by mail is complete upon deposit of the document in the mail. Where service is effected by mail, the time within which the person served may respond thereto will be increased by three days.

(3) *Designation of person to receive service*. The first document filed in a proceeding by or on behalf of any party must state on the first page the name and postal address of the person who is authorized to receive service for the party of all documents filed in the proceeding. Thereafter, service of documents must be made upon the person authorized unless service on a different authorized person or on the party himself is ordered by the Commission, or unless pursuant to §9.8 the person authorized is changed by the party upon due notice to all other parties. Parties must file and serve notification of any changes in the information provided pursuant to this subparagraph as soon as practicable after the change occurs.

(4) *Service of orders and decisions*. A copy of all notices, rulings, opinions and orders of the Commission will be served on each of the parties and will be deemed served upon deposit in the mail.

(d) *Official docket.* Upon receipt of a notice of appeal filed in accordance with § 9.20, or a petition for stay pending review filed in accordance with § 9.24, the Proceedings Clerk will establish and thereafter maintain the official docket of that proceeding and will assign a docket number to the proceeding.

[52 FR 25366, July 7, 1987, as amended at 60 FR 49334, Sept. 25, 1995]

§ 9.5 Motions.

(a) *In general.* An application for a form of relief not otherwise specifically provided for in this part must be made by a written motion, filed with the Proceedings Clerk. The motion must state the relief sought and the basis for the relief and may set forth the authority relied upon.

(b) *Answer to motions.* Any party may serve and file a written response to a motion within ten days after service of the motion, or within such longer or shorter period as established by these rules, or as the Commission may direct.

(c) *Motions for procedural orders.* Motions for procedural orders, including motions for extensions of time, may be acted on at any time, without awaiting a response thereto. Any party adversely affected by such action may request reconsideration, vacation or modification of the action.

(d) *Dilatory motions.* Frivolous or repetitive motions dealing with the same subject matter will not be permitted and such motions will summarily be denied.

§ 9.6 Sanctions for noncompliance.

In the event that any party fails to file any document or make any appearance which is required under this part, the Commission may, in its discretion, and upon its own motion or upon the motion of any party to the proceeding, dismiss the proceeding before it, or, based on the record before it, affirm, modify, set aside, or remand for further proceedings, in whole or in part, the decision of the exchange.

§ 9.7 Settlement.

At any time before there has been a final determination by the Commission with respect to any notice of appeal

filed in accordance with § 9.20, the parties may file a stipulation for dismissal based on a settlement agreement. Thereupon, the Commission may issue an order terminating the proceeding before the Commission as to the parties to the settlement agreement. The entry of such an order does not affect the Commission's authority under the Act.

§ 9.8 Practice before the Commission.

(a) *Practice—(1) By non-attorneys.* An individual may appear *pro se* (on his own behalf); a general partner may represent the partnership; a *bona fide* officer of a corporation, trust or association may represent the corporation, trust or association.

(2) *By attorneys.* An attorney-at-law who is admitted to practice before the highest Court in any State or territory, or of the District of Columbia, who has not been suspended or disbarred from appearance and practice before the Commission in accordance with provisions of part 14 of this chapter may represent parties as an attorney in proceedings before the Commission.

(b) *Debarment of counsel or representative during the course of a proceeding.* Whenever, while a proceeding is pending before the Commission, the Commission finds that a person acting as counsel or representative for any party to the proceeding is guilty of contemptuous conduct, the Commission may order that such person be precluded from further acting as counsel or representative in the proceeding. The proceeding will not be delayed or suspended pending disposition of the appeal; *Provided*, That the Commission may suspend the proceedings for a reasonable time for the purpose of enabling the party to obtain other counsel or representative.

(c) *Withdrawal of representation.* Withdrawal from representation of a party will be only by leave of the Commission. Such leave to withdraw may be conditioned on the attorney's (or representative's) submission of an affidavit averring that the party represented has actual knowledge of the withdrawal, and such affidavit must include the name and address of a successor counsel (or representative) or a statement that the represented party

has determined to proceed *pro se*, in which case, the statement must include the address where that party can thereafter be served.

§9.9 Waiver of rules; delegation of authority.

(a) *Standards for waiver; notice to parties.* To prevent undue hardship on any party or for other good cause shown the Commission may waive any rule in this part in a particular case and may order proceedings in accordance with its direction upon a determination that no party will be prejudiced thereby and that the ends of justice will be served. Reasonable notice will be given to all parties of any action taken pursuant to this paragraph.

(b) *Delegation of authority.* (1) The Commission hereby delegates, until the Commission orders otherwise, to the General Counsel, or the General Counsel's designee, the authority:

(i) To waive or modify any of the requirements of §§9.20–9.25 and to waive or modify the requirements of the Commission's rules relating to reparations incorporated by §9.3 insofar as such requirements pertain to changes in time permitted for filing, and to the form, execution, service and filing of documents;

(ii) To enter orders under §§9.5, 9.6 and 9.7;

(iii) To decline to accept any notice of appeal, or petition for stay pending review, of matters excluded from this part by §§9.1(b), 9.2(a) and 9.2(b), and to so notify the appellant and the exchange;

(iv) To stay the effective date of a disciplinary action for a period of time, not to exceed four days, to enable the Commission to rule on a petition for stay filed under §9.24;

(v) To decline to accept any document which has not been timely filed or perfected, as specified in these rules;

(vi) To order the filing of the record of the exchange proceeding notwithstanding the submission of a motion under §9.21(b) that the Commission not accept a notice of appeal; and

(vii) To enter any order which will facilitate or expedite Commission review.

(2) Within seven days after service of a ruling issued pursuant to paragraph

(b)(1) of this section, a party may file with the Proceedings Clerk a petition for Commission reconsideration of the ruling. Unless the Commission orders otherwise, the filing of a petition for reconsideration will not operate to stay the effective date of such ruling.

(3) The General Counsel or the General Counsel's designee may submit to the Commission for its consideration any matter which has been delegated pursuant to paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

(4) Nothing in this section will be deemed to prohibit the Commission, at its election, from exercising the authority delegated to the General Counsel under this section.

[52 FR 25366, July 7, 1987, as amended at 60 FR 54801, Oct. 26, 1995; 64 FR 46270, Aug. 25, 1999]

Subpart B—Notice and Effective Date of Disciplinary Action or Access Denial Action

§9.10 [Reserved]

§9.11 Form, contents and delivery of notice of disciplinary or access denial action.

(a) *When required.* Whenever an exchange decision pursuant to which a disciplinary action or access denial action is to be imposed has become final, the exchange must, within thirty days thereafter, provide written notice of such action to the person against whom the action was taken and to the Commission: *Provided*, That the exchange is not required to notify the Commission of any summary action, as authorized under the provisions of §8.27 of this chapter, which results in the imposition of minor penalties for the violation of exchange rules relating to decorum or attire. No final disciplinary or access denial action may be made effective by the exchange except as provided in §9.12.

(b) *Contents of notice.* For purposes of this part, the written notice of a disciplinary action or access denial action may be either a copy of a written decision which accords with §8.16, §8.18, or §8.19(c) of this chapter (including copies of any materials incorporated by reference) or other written notice which must include:

(1) The name of the person against whom the disciplinary action or access denial action was taken;

(2) A statement of the reasons for the disciplinary action or access denial action together with a listing of any rules which the person who was the subject of the disciplinary action or access denial action was charged with having violated or which otherwise serve as the basis of the exchange action;

(3) A statement of the conclusions and findings made by the exchange with regard to each rule violation charged or, in the event of settlement, a statement specifying those rule violations which the exchange has reason to believe were committed;

(4) The terms of the disciplinary action or access denial action;

(5) The date on which the action was taken and the date the exchange intends to make the disciplinary or access denial action effective; and

(6) Except as otherwise provided in §9.1(b), a statement informing the party subject to the disciplinary action or access denial action of the availability of Commission review of the exchange action pursuant to section 8c of the Act and this part.

(c) *Delivery and filing of the notice.* Delivery of the notice must be made either personally to the person who was the subject of the disciplinary action or access denial action or by mail to such person at that person's last known address. A copy of the notice must be filed on the same date with the Commission, either in person during normal business hours or by mail to: Contract Markets Section, Division of Trading and Markets, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, NW., Washington, DC 20581. The notice filed with the Commission must additionally include the date on which the notice was delivered to the person disciplined or denied access and state whether delivery was personal or by mail.

(d) *Effect of delivery and filing by mail.* Filing by mail to the Commission and delivery by mail to the person disciplined or denied access will be complete upon deposit in the mail of a properly addressed and postpaid document.

Where delivery to the person disciplined or denied access is effected by such mail, the time within which a notice of appeal or petition for stay may be filed will be increased by three days.

(e) *Certification.* Copies of the notice and the submission of any additional information provided pursuant to this section must be certified as true and correct by a duly authorized officer, agent or employee of the exchange.

[52 FR 25366, July 7, 1987, as amended at 60 FR 49334, Sept. 25, 1995]

§ 9.12 Effective date of disciplinary or access denial action.

(a) *Effective date.* Any disciplinary or access denial action taken by an exchange will not become effective until at least fifteen days after the written notice prescribed by §9.11 is delivered to the person disciplined or denied access; *Provided, however,* That the exchange may cause a disciplinary action to become effective prior to that time if:

(1) As authorized by §8.25 of this chapter, the exchange reasonably believes, and so states in its written decision, that immediate action is necessary to protect the best interests of the marketplace; or

(2) As authorized by §8.17(b) of this chapter, the exchange determines, and so states in its written decision, that the actions of a person who is within the exchange's jurisdiction have impeded the progress of a disciplinary hearing; or

(3) As authorized by §8.27 of this chapter, the exchange determines that a person has violated exchange rules relating to decorum or attire, or timely submission of accurate records required for clearing or verifying each day's transactions or other similar activities; or

(4) The person against whom the action is taken has consented to the penalty to be imposed and to the timing of its effectiveness.

(b) *Notice of early effective date.* If the exchange determines in accordance with paragraph (a)(1) of this section that a disciplinary action will become effective prior to the expiration of fifteen days after written notice thereof, it must notify the person disciplined in

§ 9.13

17 CFR Ch. I (4–1–02 Edition)

writing, either personally or by telegram or other means of written telecommunication to the person's last known address, stating the reasons for the determination. The exchange must also by telegram or other means of written telecommunication immediately notify the Commission (Attention: Contracts Markets Section, Division of Trading and Markets). Where notice is delivered by telegram or other means of written telecommunication, the time within which the person so notified may file a petition for stay pursuant to § 9.24(a)(2) will be increased by one day.

[52 FR 25366, July 7, 1987; 52 FR 27286, July 20, 1987]

§ 9.13 Publication of notice.

Whenever an exchange suspends, expels or otherwise disciplines, or denies any person access to the exchange, it must make public its findings by disclosing at least the information contained in the notice required by § 9.11(b). An exchange must make such findings public as soon as the disciplinary action or access denial action becomes effective in accordance with the provisions of § 9.12 by posting a notice in a conspicuous place on its premises to which its members and the public regularly have access for a period of five consecutive business days. Thereafter, the exchange must maintain and make available for public inspection a record of the information contained in the disciplinary or access denial notice.

§§ 9.14–9.19 [Reserved]

Subpart C—Initial Procedure With Respect to Appeals

§ 9.20 Notice of appeal.

(a) *Time to file.* Except as provided in § 9.1(b), any person who is the subject of disciplinary or access denial action by an exchange or any person who is otherwise adversely affected by any other action of an exchange may, at any time within thirty days after notice of the disciplinary or access denial action has been delivered to the person disciplined or denied access in accordance with § 9.11, or within thirty days after notice of another adverse action, file a notice

of appeal of such disciplinary, access denial or other adverse action. The Commission may dismiss any appeal for which a notice of appeal is not timely filed.

(b) *Contents.* The notice of appeal need consist only of a brief statement indicating that the party is requesting Commission review of the exchange action, and must include:

(1) The name and address of the appellant, and any duly authorized agent or officer of the appellant;

(2) The name and docket number of the exchange proceeding;

(3) The date on which the disciplinary, access denial or other adverse action was imposed by the exchange or the date on which the final exchange decision was rendered, and the dates upon which the exchange action has or will become final and effective;

(4) A copy of the notice provided to the appellant by the exchange in accordance with the provisions of § 9.11, in the case of a disciplinary or access denial action, or otherwise, in the case of any other adverse exchange action;

(5) The relief sought from the action of the exchange;

(6) The appellant's request for a copy of the record of the exchange proceeding, or portions of the record not in the appellant's possession, and a representation that the appellant agrees to pay the exchange reasonable fees, as provided in the rules of the exchange, for printing that copy; and

(7) A nonrefundable filing fee of \$100 remitted by check, bank draft or money order, payable to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

[52 FR 25366, July 7, 1987; 52 FR 27286, July 20, 1987]

§ 9.21 Record of exchange proceeding.

(a) *Filing of record.* Within thirty days after service of the notice of appeal, the exchange must file two copies of the record of the exchange proceeding (as defined in § 9.2(i)) with the Proceedings Clerk, and serve a copy on the appellant and any other party to the proceeding, provided that such person has agreed to pay the exchange reasonable fees, as provided in the rules of the exchange, for printing the copy. The record must be bound as a unit, must be chronologically indexed and tabbed,

must be certified as correct by a duly authorized official, agent or employee of the exchange, and must contain a certificate of service on the appellant or any other party to the proceeding (or waiver of service for failure to pay costs pursuant to this rule).

(b) *Motion that the Commission not accept notice of appeal.* Within fifteen days after service of the notice of appeal, the exchange may file a motion that the Commission not accept a notice of appeal of any matter that the exchange contends is excluded from this part by §§ 9.1(b), 9.2(a) and 9.2(g). Such motion must be accompanied by an affidavit averring facts in support of the motion. The filing of such motion will operate to stay the filing of the record and subsequent submissions pending the Commission's ruling on such motion. The appellant may serve and file a written response to such motion within ten days after service of the motion.

§ 9.22 Appeal brief.

(a) *Time to file.* Any person who has filed a notice of appeal in accordance with the provisions of § 9.20 must perfect the appeal by filing an appeal brief with the Proceedings Clerk within thirty days after service of the record of the exchange proceeding. The Commission may dismiss any appeal for which an appeal brief is not timely filed.

(b) *Contents.* Each appeal brief submitted to the Commission pursuant to this section must include, in the order indicated:

(1) A statement of the issues presented for review;

(2) *A statement of the case.* The statement must first indicate briefly the nature of the case and include a full description of the disciplinary, access denial or other adverse action. There must follow a clear and concise statement of all facts relevant to the consideration of the appeal, including, if known, each alleged act or omission forming the basis of the exchange action, with appropriate references to the record of the exchange proceeding;

(3) *An argument.* The argument may be preceded by a summary. The argument must contain the contentions of the appellant with respect to the issues presented, and the reasons therefor,

and citations to relevant authorities and to parts of the record of the exchange proceeding; and

(4) A conclusion stating the precise relief sought.

(c) *Length of appeal brief.* Without prior leave of the Commission, the appeal brief may not exceed thirty-five pages, exclusive of any table of contents, table of cases, index and appendix containing transcripts of testimony, exhibits, statutes, rules, regulations or similar materials.

§ 9.23 Answering brief.

(a) *Time for filing answering brief.* Within thirty days after service of the appeal brief, the exchange must file with the Commission an answering brief.

(b) *Contents of answering brief.* The answering brief generally must follow the same style as prescribed for the appeal brief but may omit a statement of the issues or of the case if the exchange does not dispute the issues or the statement of the case contained in the appeal brief.

(c) *Length of answering brief.* Without prior leave of the Commission, the answering brief may not exceed thirty-five pages, exclusive of any table of contents, table of cases, index and appendix containing transcripts of testimony, exhibits, statutes, rules, regulations or similar materials.

§ 9.24 Petition for stay pending review.

(a) *Time to file.* (1) Within ten days after the notice of the disciplinary or access denial action has been delivered in accordance with § 9.11 to a person disciplined or denied access, that person may petition the Commission to stay the disciplinary or access denial action pending consideration by the Commission of the notice of appeal and, if granted, the appeal underlying the notice of appeal. The petition for stay must be accompanied by the notice of appeal.

(2) Within ten days after a notice of summary action has been delivered in accordance with § 9.12(b) to a person who is the subject of a summary action authorized by § 8.25 of this chapter, that person may petition the Commission to stay the effectiveness of the summary action pending completion of

§ 9.25

17 CFR Ch. I (4–1–02 Edition)

the exchange proceeding conducted as authorized by § 8.26 of this chapter.

(3) The Commission may deny any petition for stay which is not timely filed or which is not otherwise in accord with these rules.

(b) *Contents of petition for stay.* A petition filed under this section must state the reasons that the stay is requested and the facts relied upon, as specified in § 9.20. Averments of the petition must be supported by affidavits, other sworn statements or copies thereof, or a stipulation as to those facts which are not in dispute. Based upon the petition, the Commission, in its discretion, may order a stay of the disciplinary action or access denial action.

(c) *Response to petition.* The exchange may serve and file a written response to any petition for a stay within five days after service of the petition.

(d) *Standards for granting petition for stay.* The Commission will promptly determine whether to grant or deny a petition for stay and may act upon a petition at any time, without waiting for a response thereto. In determining whether to grant or deny the petition for stay, the Commission will consider, among other things, whether the petitioner has established:

(1) Petitioner's likelihood of success on the merits; and

(2) That denial of the stay would cause irreparable harm to the petitioner; and

(3) That granting the stay would not endanger orderly trading or otherwise cause substantial harm to the exchange or market participants; and

(4) That granting the stay would not be contrary to the Act, and the rules, regulations and orders of the Commission thereunder or otherwise contrary to the public interest.

(e) *Ex parte stays.* The Commission may act upon a petition for stay, without waiting for the exchange's response thereto only where petitioner:

(1) Expressly requests an *ex parte* stay;

(2) Files a proof of service; and

(3) Clearly establishes by affidavit that immediate and irreparable injury, loss or damage will result to the petitioner before the exchange can be heard in opposition.

Any order granting a stay prior to the filing of the exchange's reply will expire by its terms within such time after service of the Commission's ruling on the petition, not to exceed ten days, as the Commission fixes, unless within the time so fixed the order, for good cause shown, is extended for a like period or unless the exchange consents that it may be extended for a longer period. In any case, the exchange may move for dissolution or modification of the stay, and the Commission will proceed to determine such motion as expeditiously as the ends of justice require.

[52 FR 25366, July 7, 1987; 52 FR 27286, July 20, 1987]

§ 9.25 Limited participation of interested persons.

On its own motion or upon motion of any person asserting a direct and substantial interest in the outcome of a proceeding conducted under this part, the Commission, in its discretion, may permit the limited participation by such interested person in the proceeding. A motion for leave to participate in the proceeding must identify the interest of that person and must state the reasons why participation in the proceeding by that person is desirable, and must state whether that person requests a copy of the record of the exchange proceeding to the extent permitted by section 8c(a)(2) of the Act and that such person agrees to pay the exchange reasonable fees, as provided in the rules of the exchange, for printing the copy.

[52 FR 25366, July 7, 1987, as amended at 59 FR 5701, Feb. 8, 1994]

§ 9.26 Participation of Commission staff.

Within twenty days after the receipt by the Division of Trading and Markets of the answering brief, the Division of Trading and Markets may file with the Proceedings Clerk a notice of intention to participate in the proceedings as *amicus curiae*. Within thirty days after filing the notice of intention to participate, the Division may file a brief as *amicus curiae*. Without prior leave of the Commission, the brief may not exceed thirty-five pages. The brief must

be filed and served on the appellant, exchange and any other parties to the proceeding in the manner specified by these rules. Within ten days after service of the Division's brief, any party may file a reply to the Division's brief. After the filing of the notice of intent to participate, no employee of the Division of Trading and Markets may thereafter make any communication relating to the proceeding, other than on the record of the proceeding before the Commission, to any Commissioner or Commission decisional employee.

§§ 9.27–9.29 [Reserved]

Subpart D—Commission Review of Disciplinary, Access Denial or Other Adverse Action

§ 9.30 Scope of review.

On review, the Commission may, in its discretion, consider *sua sponte* any issues arising from the record before it and may base its determination thereon, or limit the issues to those presented in the statement of issues in the briefs, treating those issues not raised as waived. If the Commission determines to consider any issue not raised by the parties, it may issue an order that notifies the parties of such determination and provides an opportunity for the parties to address any issue considered *sua sponte* by the Commission.

§ 9.31 Commission review of disciplinary or access denial action on its own motion.

(a) *Request for additional information.* Where a person disciplined or denied access has not appealed the exchange decision to the Commission, upon review of the notice specified in § 9.11, the Division of Trading and Markets may request that the exchange file with the Division the record of the exchange proceeding, or designated portions of the record, a brief statement of the evidence and testimony adduced to support the exchange's findings that a rule or rules of the exchange were violated and such recordings, transcripts and other documents applicable to the particular exchange proceeding as the Division may specify. The exchange must promptly advise the person who is the

subject of the disciplinary or access denial action of the Division's request. Within thirty days after service of the Division's request, the exchange must file the information requested with the Division and, upon request, deliver that information to the person who is the subject of the disciplinary or access denial action. Delivery and filing must be in the manner prescribed by § 9.11(c). A person subject to the disciplinary action or access denial action requesting a copy of the information furnished to the Division must, if the exchange rules so provide, agree to pay the exchange reasonable fees for printing the copy.

(b) *Review on motion of the Commission.* The Commission may institute review of an exchange disciplinary or access denial action on its own motion. Other than in extraordinary circumstances, such review will be initiated within 180 days after the Commission has received the notice of exchange action provided for in § 9.11. If the Commission should institute review on its own motion, it will issue an order permitting the person who is the subject of the disciplinary or access denial action an opportunity to file an appropriate submission, and the exchange an opportunity to file a reply thereto.

§ 9.32 Oral argument.

(a) *On motion of Commission.* On its own motion, the Commission may, in its discretion, hear oral argument by the parties any time before the decision of the Commission is filed with the Proceedings Clerk.

(b) *On request of party.* Any party may file with the Proceedings Clerk a request in writing for the opportunity to present oral argument before the Commission, which the Commission may, in its discretion, grant or deny. A request under this paragraph must be filed concurrently with the party's brief.

(c) *Reporting and transcription.* Oral argument before the Commission will be recorded and transcribed unless the Commission directs otherwise. In the event the Commission affords the parties the opportunity to present oral argument before the Commission, the

§ 9.33

oral argument will proceed in accordance with the provisions of § 10.103 (b) and (d) of this chapter.

§ 9.33 Final decision by the Commission.

(a) *Opinion and order.* Upon review, the Commission may affirm, modify, set aside, or remand for further proceedings, in whole or in part, the decision of the exchange. The Commission's decision will be contained in its opinion and order which will be based upon the record before it, including the record of the exchange proceeding, and any oral argument made in accordance with § 9.32. Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, the opinion and order will constitute the final decision of the Commission, effective upon service on the parties. In the event the Commission is equally divided as to its decision, the Commission will affirm without opinion the decision of the exchange, which will constitute the Commission's final decision.

(b) *Order of summary affirmance.* If the Commission finds that the result reached in the decision of the exchange is substantially correct and that none of the arguments on appeal made by the appellant raise important questions of law or policy, the Commission may, by appropriate order, summarily affirm the decision of the exchange without opinion, which will constitute the Commission's final decision. Unless the Commission expressly indicates otherwise in its order, an order of summary affirmance does not reflect a Commission determination to adopt the exchange final decision, including any rationale contained therein, as its opinion and order, and neither the exchange's final decision nor the Commission's order of summary affirmance will serve as a Commission precedent in other proceedings.

(c) *Standards of review.* In reviewing an exchange disciplinary, access denial or other adverse action, the Commission will consider whether:

(1) The exchange disciplinary, access denial or other adverse action was taken in accordance with the rules of the exchange;

(2) Fundamental fairness was observed in the conduct of the proceeding

resulting in the disciplinary, access denial or other adverse action;

(3)(i) In the case of a disciplinary action, the record contains substantial evidence of a violation of the rules of the exchange, or (ii) in the case of an access denial or other adverse action, the record contains substantial evidence supporting the exchange action; and

(4) The disciplinary, access denial or other adverse action otherwise accords with the Act and the rules, regulations and orders of the Commission thereunder.

17 CFR Ch. I (4-1-02 Edition)

PART 10—RULES OF PRACTICE

Subpart A—General Provisions

- Sec.
- 10.1 Scope and applicability of rules of practice.
 - 10.2 Definitions.
 - 10.3 Suspension, amendment, revocation and waiver of rules.
 - 10.4 Business address; hours.
 - 10.5 Computation of time.
 - 10.6 Changes in time permitted for filing.
 - 10.7 Date of entry of orders.
 - 10.8 Presiding officers.
 - 10.9 Separation of functions.
 - 10.10 Ex parte communications.
 - 10.11 Appearance in adjudicatory proceedings.
 - 10.12 Service and filing of documents; form and execution.

Subpart B—Institution of Adjudicatory Proceedings; Pleadings; Motions

- 10.21 Commencement of the proceeding.
- 10.22 Complaint and notice of hearing.
- 10.23 Answer.
- 10.24 Amendments and supplemental pleadings.
- 10.25 Form of pleadings.
- 10.26 Motions and other papers.

Subpart C—Parties and Limited Participation

- 10.31 Parties.
- 10.32 Substitution of parties.
- 10.33 Intervention as a party.
- 10.34 Limited participation.
- 10.35 Permission to state views.
- 10.36 Commission review of rulings.

Subpart D—Prehearing Procedures; Prehearing Conferences; Discovery Depositions

- 10.41 Prehearing conferences; procedural matters.